

# MEMO

**DATE:** October 4, 2007

**TO:** Energy and Environment Committee

**FROM:** Sheryll Del Rosario, Associate Planner, (213) 236-1879, delrosar@scag.ca.gov

**SUBJECT:** Environmental Justice Workshop

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## BACKGROUND:

As a government agency that receives federal funding, SCAG is responsible for implementing Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and conforming to federal environmental justice (EJ) principles, policies, and regulations. SCAG has a longstanding policy to actively ensure nondiscrimination in all of its activities. Furthermore, SCAG continually identifies and prevents discriminatory effects by actively administering its programs, policies, and activities to ensure that social impacts to communities and people are recognized early and frequently throughout the transportation decision-making process - from early planning through implementation. SCAG conducts public outreach and solicits public participation in the development of its plans, programs, and policies. This participation helps to assure that the public has a voice in regional planning decisions.

Staff has compiled a list of key stakeholders that will be used for environmental justice outreach efforts. This list is comprised of persons and organizations involved with the 2004 RTP, as well as additional stakeholders that were recommended by AQMD's EJ Working Group. Key stakeholder groups included non-profit organizations, advocacy groups, neighborhood coalitions, environmental and public health organizations, industry, business owners, and other interested parties.

On September 19, 2007, SCAG held an Environmental Justice Workshop for the 2008 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) at the main office in downtown Los Angeles, with videoconferencing available at the Inland office. The intent of the Workshop was threefold: 1) present general information on SCAG's EJ Program; 2) review the previous EJ analysis in the 2004 RTP; and 3) obtain input from the public on the EJ analysis for the 2008 RTP. The comments received will be considered in the analysis for the 2008 RTP.

As part of the on-going outreach efforts, SCAG will hold an EJ Workshop following the release of the draft 2008 RTP. Additional EJ presentations will occur at future RTP workshops and upon request.

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## FISCAL IMPACT:

Activities related to the Environmental Justice Workshop are contained in the OWP under the work element 08-020.SCGS1.

Reviewed by:

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